Lima, Melissa

Period: 5

10/14/13

AP English Language

The Crucible: Anticipation/Reaction Guide

5. That which doesn’t destroy us only makes us stronger.

Made popular by the famous Kelly Clarkson song *Stronger*, “what doesn’t kill you makes you stronger” (Clarkson) is very much true. Many of us make mistakes, these mistakes come with their own consequences, we are to either let these consequences deteriorate us or we can let these consequences be a blessing and a lesson to us to never make the same mistake again. What attempts to kill us but does not succeed teaches us many things. It not only shows a person the strength they thought they never had, but it teaches them to value that strength and not take it for granted. There are stages we go through in life, some are rough and some are gentle. These stages either make us or break us. When they break us it is because we couldn't handle it, it destroyed us. However when one makes it through these different phases it is because we were strong enough to do so. Leading you to be able to take on obstacles that you thought you couldn’t have before. No matter what happens around you, you will always have that inner strength that will allow you to keep moving on. As you go on in life you will be pressured, and you may even feel like you have a constant weight on your shoulders trying to bring you down. The people who make it through these times are the people we should respect and take into consideration. They can be our inspiration, people we look up to. For example, my mother is a woman who has been through many rough hardships in her life. I respect her, admire her, and love her because although many times she felt as though she couldn't keep her head above water she held it all together and was able to give my siblings and me the life we have now. Although everything may not be perfect, she still gave us everything we needed and most of what we wanted. She is a strong person, like many others as well, because of the obstacles that were put upon her and how she chose to deal with them. Mistakes and hardships are sometimes the only things that can show someone how strong they really are. It is somewhat like the quote that states, “You never know how strong you are until being strong is the only choice you have” (Bob Marley). Many of individuals do not acknowledge the amount of strength and courage that they have because they never had the chance to use it nor show it, once a person has no other choice but to use their strength then that is when they come to their senses and realize that they are no less than any other. That which doesn’t destroy us only makes us stronger because we learn from the consequences we are given and we are better prepared for any other thing that may come our way.

Reference:

Clarkson, Kelly. “Stronger (What Doesn’t Kill You)”. Stronger. RCA Records. 17 January 2012.